

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 BIB-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 ACDA-05

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 237

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

RUFHOLXAMEMBASSY BONN 4513

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WB, GE, GW, UR

SUBJECT: GDR OFFERS RE VISITS AND FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: USBERLIN 2241

1. SUMMARY. REACTION TO GDR PACKAGE TO SENAT GENERALL
POSITIVE, ALTHOUGH IT IS RECOGNIZED EACH PROPOSAL WILL HAVE
ITS PRICE TAG. SENAT AND FRG OFFICIALS TO MEET DECEMBER 16-20
TO DETERMINE PRIORITIES ON TRANSIT ROUTE PROPOSALS. END SUMMARY.

2. DENOUEMENT OF FRG-GDR NEGOTIATIONS OF
PAST SEVERAL MONTHS CAUGHT SENAT BY SURPRISE, DESPITE
PROTESTATIONS BY LEADING OFFICIALS THAT OUTCOME WAS
MORE OR LESS ANTICIPATED AND MOST INDIVIDUAL PROPOSALS KNOW
TO BE IN OFFING. SENAT PRESS CHIEF STRUVE INFORMED MISSION
THAT NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ANNOUNCEMENT DECEMBER 8
IN INITIALING OF SWING AGREEMENT WAS TOTALLY
UNEXPECTED BUT THAT GOVMAYOR WAS FILLED IN BY BONN
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IMMEDIATELY THEREFTER. SENAT CHANCELLERY CHIEF

HERZ TOLD MISOFF THAT FRG PERMREP GAUS WAS SHOWN TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE FOR SENAT AND AIDE MEMOIRE FOR FRG BY SED CHIEF HONECKER ON DECEMBER 2. THUS, HE WAS ABLE AT MEETING WITH GOVMAYOR SCHUETZ AND SENAT OFFICIALS AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 7 TO PROVIDE ADVANCE INFORMATION ON WHAT MITDANK WISHED TO CONVEY TO SCHUETZ ON DECEMBER 9. (SHORTLY AFTER NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ARTICLE APPEARED, MITDANK TELEPHONED STRUVE TO REQUEST DECEMBER 9 APPOINTMENT WITH SCHUETZ.)

3. HERZ SAID THAT WHEN MITDANK MET BRIEFLY WITH HIM FOLLOWING SESSION WITH GOVMAYOR, HE EMPHASIZED THAT GDR EXPECTED TO NEGOTIATE IMPROVEMENTS OF TRANSIT ROUTES WITH FRG AND THEREFORE INCLUDED INFORMATION ABOUT THESE PROPOSALS IN AIDE MEMOIRE TO SENAT FOR INFORMATION PRUPOSES ONLY. EXCEPTION WAS TELTOW CANAL, IN REGARD TO WHICH HERZ SAID SENAT MAY NOW DECIDE THAT IT WOULD AFTER ALL BE PREFERABLE FOR THE SENAT TO NEGOTIATE, PROVIDED FRG PAID THE BILL.

4. BRAEUTIGAM, NUMBER TWO IN FRG MISSION EAST BERLIN, TOLD MISOFF THAT MOST BUT NOT ALL OF NEGOTIATING BURDEN ON SWING AGREEMENT HAD BEEN CARRIED BY GAUS. BRAEUTIGAM SAID TI WAS UNDERSTOOD SCENARIO CALLED FOR MORE OR LESS SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE OF AGREEMENT ON SWING AND REMAINDER OF PACKAGE, BUT WHEN EAST GERMANS JUMPED THE GUN SENAT AND FRG FELT COMPELLED TO RELEASE THEIR NEGOTIATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

5. ENTIRE MATTER WAS SO TIGHTLY HELD BY TOP BERLINERS AND WEST GERMANS THAT NOT ONLY OPPOSITION BUT WELL-MEANING SPD STALWARTS SUCH AS SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS STOBBE WERE CAUGHT OFF BASE BY NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ANNOUNCEMENT AND WERE TRAPPED INTO CRITICAL COMMENTS, ECHOED BY LOCAL PRESS, GIVING VIEW THAT FRG APPEARED TO BE MAKING MAJOR FINANCIAL CONCESSION MERELY IN RETURN FOR GDR'S RECISION OF ILLEGAL MEASURE-APPLICATION OF MAMIMUM CURRENCY EXCHANGE TO PENSIONERS. HOWEVER, NOW THAT FULL RESULTS HAVE

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BEEN MADE KNOW, LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE GENERALLY SATISFIED AND PLEASED TO FIND NUMBER OF UNEXPECTED ITEMS IN GDR CHRISTMAS PACKAGE.

6 FRG PLENIPOTENTIARY SPANGENBERG INFORMED ALLIED DEPUTY COMMANDANTS (U.S. ACTING) DECEMBER 10 THAT FRG CABINET WOULD MEET FOLLOWING DAY TO APPROVE NEW SWING-CREDIT AGREEMENT WITH SIGNING TO TAKE PLACE AT

END OF WEEK. SPANGENBERG SAID THAT NO ONE SEEMED SURE WHAT WAS INTENDED BY GDR ENERGY PROPOSAL: THERE HAD BEEN SOME EARLIER HINTS THAT GDR WISHED TO HAVE FRG BIDS ON A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, AND SPANGENBERG SPECULATED THAT EAST GERMANS MIGHT BE "GETTING EVEN" WITH SOVIETS FOR THEIR NUCLEAR PLANT UNDERSTANDING WITH FRG. IN REGARD TO ARRAY OF PROPOSALS FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT, INCLUDING RAIL LINES, ROADS AND TWLTOW CANAL, SPANGENBERG SAID EARLIER DISCUSSIONS AMONG INTERESTED WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS HAD BEEN UNABLE TO SORT OUT PRIORITIES. FOUR-DAY SESSION WAS BEING SCHEDULED DECEMBER 16 WITH TWO DAYS IN BERLIN AND TWO DAYS IN BONN TO DETERMINE WHICH PROJECTS WERE OF GREATEST INTEREST, TAKING COSTS IN ACCOUNT. (SOME OF DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR TO DATE, ACCORDING TO HERZ AND SPANGENBERG, HAVE SUGGESTED FRG FIRMS BID ON CONSTRUCTION OR FRG FURNISH MACHINERY AND KNOW-HOW.) SPANGENBERG INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT NO SERIOUS NEGOTIAIONS WITH GDR WERE ANTICIPATED BEFORE NEW YEAR.

7 GDR IN HEAT OF PAST THREE DAYS' MANEUVERING DID NOT FAIL TO GET IN ITS THEOLOGICAL LICKS: ITS AIDE MEMOIRE WAS DELIVERED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL TO GOVERNING MAYOR, THUS SUPPORTING SEPARATE STATE THEORY. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND'S SOLE COVERAGE OF SCURRYING-ABOUT OVER PAST FEW DAYS TOOK FORM OF TWO BRIEF, JAXTAPOSED FRONT-PAGE ITEMS DECEMBER 10 TO EFFECT THAT MITDANK CALED ON SCHUETZ TO DISCUSS RELATIONS BETWEEN GDR AND "WESTBERLIN," AND NIER AND GAUS MET TO DISCUSS "ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST."SELIGMANN

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